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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application No.	08/615,876
Filing Date	March 14, 1996
First Named Inventor	Takashai Oya
Group Art Unit	2611
Examiner Name	V. Srivastava
Atty Docket No.	1232-4253US2

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114

- a. Previously submitted
- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on December 3, 2001.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
 - iii. Other: _____
- b. Enclosed
- i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other: _____

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2. Miscellaneous

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- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

- b. Other: _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, satisfy any deficiencies or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 for,
- i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e).
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§1.136 and/or 1.17)
 - iii. Other: _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$740.00 enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Kevin C. Ecker	Reg. No. (Atty/Agent)	43,600
Signature		Date	February 28, 2002